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Abi.

IRAQ

Tariq 'AZIZ
(Phonetic: ahZEEZ)*Deputy Prime Minister (since 1979);
Member, Revolutionary Command Council
(since 1977); Minister of Foreign
Affairs (since 1983)*

Tariq 'Aziz

(b)(1)

[redacted] has worked to temper the influence of more militant Ba'th Party socialist ideologues with his pragmatic assessment of national interests. Saddam's desire to attract international support for his regime and financial aid for the reconstruction of his war-torn economy will probably further enhance 'Aziz's stature within the government. 'Aziz has always advocated a more moderate foreign policy and has become the official most associated with Iraq's postwar attempt to rejoin the international community. Besides leading the Iraqi delegation at the Iraq-Iran peace talks, he:

- Has consistently favored expansion of US-Iraqi ties. He worked to improve bilateral relations before their official reestablishment in 1984 and was the point man in the negotiations on compensation for the USS Stark victims.
- Was a chief advocate of reintegrating Egypt into the Arab fold.
- Has supported a negotiated settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and has urged the Palestine Liberation Organization to adopt moderate positions in order to facilitate the peace process.

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'Aziz participated in the 1968 coup that brought the Ba'th Party to power. As Minister of Information during 1974-77 and then as a member of the RCC and the party's Regional Command, he helped Saddam undermine then President Ahmad al-Bakr. [redacted] Saddam made 'Aziz Deputy Prime Minister after finally ousting Bakr in 1979 and added the Foreign Ministry to his responsibilities four years later. We believe that Saddam does not view 'Aziz as a potential threat because, as a member of Iraq's very small Christian minority, he cannot take power in Muslim-dominated Iraq [redacted]

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'Aziz was born in 1936. [redacted]

[redacted] 'Aziz and his wife, Violette, have at least two children. [redacted]

(b)(3)

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